

### REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is filed in order to facilitate processing of the above-identified application. In particular, nothing in *Kageyama* shows, teaches or suggests first and second equipment which are image forming apparatuses for forming an image on a sheet, transmitting management information collected from the image forming apparatuses to a centralized management apparatus, transmitting management information together with trouble information and transmitting information about a second image forming apparatus together with trouble information about the first image forming apparatus as claimed in claims 1, 12 and 14. In particular, printer controller 2100 of *Kageyama* is not an image forming apparatus for forming an image on a sheet.

Thus it now appears that the application is in condition for reconsideration and allowance. Reconsideration and allowance at an early date are respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact, by telephone, the Applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed within the currently set shortened statutory period, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such extension of time may be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

In the event that any additional fees are due with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

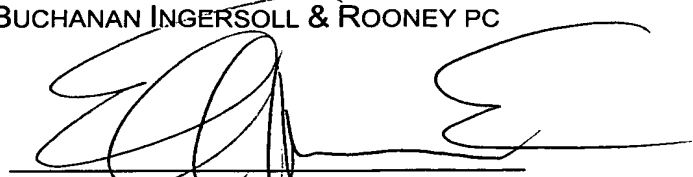
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our Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date October 19, 2006

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ellen Marcie Ernas', written over a horizontal line.

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